

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An ECU 2 performs ON/OFF judgments on an ignition switch. When the ignition switch is OFF, a judgment is made whether or not voltage learning for a fully opened position of a throttle valve 34 is complete. If complete, an electric power for a DC motor 31 is cutoff. A TPS output voltage value is read in, and a judgment is made whether or not a given period of time has elapsed. If the given period of time has elapsed, and if a throttle position sensor output voltage value VTPS is equal to or greater than a given value, then a judgment is made that there is a return spring 35 breakage failure. Breakage to the return spring 35 can thus be reliably detected.